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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/875,692	06/06/2001	Shuling Yu	60001.0016US01	7937

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CINDY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/875,692

Applicant(s)

YU ET AL.

Examiner

Cindy Nguyen

Art Unit

2171

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-18 and 20-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-18 and 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2171

DETAILED ACTION

This is in response to amendment filed 03/11/04.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed 03/11/04, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-4, 6-18, 20-23 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Richards et al. (U.S 5995921).

1. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-18, 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Richards et al. (U.S 5995921) (Richards).

Regarding claims 1, 10 and 11, Richards discloses: A method, a computer readable medium and system of searching for a help utility, comprising the steps of: providing a utility search dialog (306, fig. 3B and corresponding text, Richards);

inputting one or more search keywords directed to at least one of help utilities (col. 4, lines 39 to col. 5, lines 2, Richards);

searching at least one database containing a plurality of help utilities including help utilities (228, fig. 2 and corresponding text, Richards) provides by a plurality of computer operating systems (202, 200, fig. 2 and corresponding text and col. 6, lines 6-42, Richards);

Art Unit: 2171

finding a help utility matching the keywords (col. 6, lines 6-42, Richards); and executing the help utility (col. 6, lines 6-42, Richards);

As per claims 12, 16 and 20, all the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 1 and 4 above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claims 2, 13, 17 and 21, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 1 and 13 above, respectively. In addition, Richards discloses: further comprising the steps of: determining whether more than one help utility is found matching the keywords (col. 11, lines 25-39, Richards); displaying all help utilities found to match the keywords (col. 13, lines 27-36, Richards); and selecting one of all help utilities found to match keywords (col. 13, lines 27-36, Richards).

Regarding claims 3, 14, 18 and 22, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 1, 13 and 16 above, respectively. In addition, Richards discloses: further comprising the steps of: if after the step of searching the database containing the plurality of help utilities, no help utility is found matching the keywords, then providing the utility search dialog (col. 9, lines 54 to col. 10, lines 15, Richards); inputting one or more additional keywords directed to one of the plurality of help utilities (col. 9, lines 54 to col. 10, lines 15, Richards); searching the database containing the plurality of help utilities (col. 5, lines 38-65, Richards).

Regarding claim 4, most of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Richards discloses: further comprising the steps of if after the step of searching the database containing the plurality of help utilities, no help utility is found matching the keywords but a related help utility is found, then displaying the related help utility (col. 8, lines 31-44, Richards); invoking the related help utility (col. 8, lines 45-67, Richards).

Art Unit: 2171

As per claims 15 and 23, all the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 4, 12 and 20 above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding claim 6, all of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. In addition, Richards discloses: whereby the plurality of help utilities includes help utilities provided by at least one computer software application (col. 8, lines 31-44, Richards).

Regarding claim 7, all of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 4. In addition, Richards discloses: wherein the related help utility is a wizard (col. 11, lines 25-40, Richards).

Regarding claim 8, all of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 4. In addition, Richards discloses: wherein the related help utility is a help file (228, fig. 2 and corresponding text, Richards).

Regarding claim 9, all of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. In addition, Richards discloses: whereby the search keywords may be input using a plurality of languages (col. 9, lines 38-53, Richards).

As per claims 20-23, all the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 1-4 above, respectively. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

3. Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ainsbury et al. (U.S 6078924). Method and apparatus for performing data collection, interpretation and analysis, in an information platform.

Brooks et al. (US 4992972). Flexible context searchable on-line information system with help files and modules for on-line computer system documentation.

Johnson et al. (US 4648062). Method for providing an on line help facility for interactive information handling systems.

4. Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cindy Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-4698. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7240 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

ca
Cindy Nguyen
April 3, 2004

Wayne
WAYNE AMSBURY
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER